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**Appendix H**

**Rare Natural Communities in the  
Area of Analysis**

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Table H-1. Rare Natural Communities Documented in the Project Vicinity<sup>1</sup>.

Natural Community (Holland 1986)	Rank <sup>2</sup> (Global /State)	Habitat Description <sup>3</sup>	Included in or Excluded from the EIR, and Rationale
Coastal and Valley Freshwater Marsh	G3/S2.1	Dominated by perennial, emergent monocots including tules ( <i>Schoenoplectus</i> spp.) and cattails ( <i>Typha</i> spp.). Often forms completely closed canopies.	Included; likely occurs in areas typed as Palustrine within the Primary Area of Analysis.
Darlingtonia Seep	G4/S3.2	Typically on peridotite but also on other parent materials in wet boggy meadows and other habitats saturated with running water that may or may not have peat. <sup>5</sup>	Included; may be habitat in the Primary Area of Analysis.
Northern Interior Cypress Forest	G2/S2.2	An open forest dominated by cypress ( <i>Cupressus</i> spp.) that is low in stature, usually less than 49.5 feet. On dry, rocky, sterile, often ultramafic soils.	Included; may be inclusions in forested areas within the Primary Area of Analysis.
Northern Basalt Flow Vernal Pool <sup>6</sup>	G2/S2.1	A low, amphibious, herbaceous community dominated by annual herbs and grasses. Germination and growth begin with fall rains, often continuing even when inundated. Pools are typically less than 540 square feet. Rising spring temperatures evaporate the pools.	Included; may be habitat in the Primary Area of Analysis.
Sitka Spruce Forest	G1/S1.1	Dense forest dominated by Sitka spruce with a dense understory of broadleaved trees, shrubs and perennial herbs, including several species of ferns.	Included; may be inclusions in forested areas immediately adjacent to the coast within the Primary Area of Analysis.
Upland Douglas-fir Forest	G4/S3.1	A mixed-age climax forest dominated by Douglas-fir ( <i>Pseudotsuga menziesii</i> ). Stands are typically even-aged and dense with canopy closure greater than 70 percent. Sites typically occur on moderately deep, well-drained soils.	Included; may be inclusions in areas typed as Douglas Fir within the Primary Area of Analysis.

<sup>1</sup> Source: CDFW. 2017. California Natural Diversity Database. RareFind5. Electronic database. Natural Heritage Division, California Department of Fish and Game, Sacramento, California. <https://map.dfg.ca.gov/rarefind/view/RareFind.aspx> [Accessed May 2017].

<sup>2</sup> Status:

Global Rank

- G1 Critically Imperiled—At very high risk of extinction due to extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer populations), very steep declines, or other factors.
- G2 Imperiled: At high risk of extinction due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors.
- G3 Vulnerable: At moderate risk of extinction due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors.
- G4 Apparently Secure: Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.

State Rank

- S1 Critically Imperiled—Critically imperiled in the state because of extreme rarity (often five or fewer occurrences) or because of some factor(s) such as very steep declines making it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the state/province.
- S2 Imperiled: Imperiled in the nation or state/province because of rarity due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors making it very vulnerable to extirpation from the nation or state/province.
- S3 Vulnerable: Vulnerable in the nation or state/province due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation.

Additional Threat Ranks

- 0.1 Very Threatened
- 0.2 Threatened

<sup>3</sup> Holland, R. F. 1986. Preliminary descriptions of the terrestrial natural communities of California. California Department of Fish and Game, Nongame-Heritage Program, Sacramento, California. unless otherwise noted.

<sup>4</sup> Details regarding what rare natural communities are documented and may have potential habitat in the Secondary Area of Analysis are not included since this area was analyzed at a programmatic level.

<sup>5</sup> Sawyer, J. O., T. Keeler-Wolf, and J. M. Evens. 2009. A manual of California vegetation. Second edition. California Native Plant Society Press, in collaboration with California Department of Fish and Game. Sacramento.

<sup>6</sup> Listed as "Northern Vernal Pool" in CNDDDB; assumed based on distribution to be Northern Basalt Flow Vernal pool Holland Type.